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Date: January 22, 2001

By:

Kay L. Gaviglio

PATENT
Docket No. GC593

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Dyson et al.

Serial No.: 09/435,461

Filed: November 5, 1999

For: ENZYMES USEFUL FOR
CHANGING THE PROPERTIES
OF POLYESTER

Group Art Unit: 1623

Examiner: Meller, M

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. SEC. 115

Assistant Director for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2000, in the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 8 and 9.

1. A method for modifying [a] an aromatic polyester resin, film, fiber, yarn or fabric comprising treating said polyester with a polyesterase enzyme for a time and under conditions to modify the properties of said polyester, wherein said treatment occurs prior the application of a finish and said modified properties of said treated polyester comprise the pilling, weight, feel, appearance and/or luster properties of said polyester.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said polyesterase has at least 10% greater hydrolysis in a UV and/or a MB assay than a similar method without the use of a polyesterase enzyme [the control].